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knows what he insinuated. This the critic did indeed know! In view of the inconsistency between the text of his article, and the *dementi* of his first rejoinder, he considered himself justified in insinuating that Dr. Mason had come to recognize that one of his views was untenable, and preferred to deny having entertained that view to admitting its errors publicly. If I have misinterpreted Dr. Mason's paper, I fail to see it even now, for the doctor fails to answer my question: What other than the size of the cells and their nuclei, does Dr. Mason refer to when he speaks of a structure universally admitted to be motor?" Until he answers this, I would suggest that further correspondence on this head is a waste of the space in your periodical, and that demands for "customary regrets" are premature. I am as willing now as I have been throughout not only to withdraw my original stricture, but also the statements that have grown out of the controversy, if Dr. Mason can explain this passage and those with which it is associated, differently from my interpretation, and the meaning evident on their face.

Such an explanation should, however, avoid the incongruity existing between the text of Dr. Mason's article and the explanation he now gives of his real intention in polemizing against Stieda, which I must confess I have not been able to assimilate. Dr. Mason might also answer this question. Why has he, if his "three brief articles" relate throughout to reptiles, and Batrachians referred to the bat as bearing out his theory, and why has he incorporated an explanation as his own, which I published two years before, without even mentioning my name, or that of some one else who may have anticipated me?

My publication was certainly known to Dr. Mason, and he cannot fall back upon the flimsy excuse that it was a "preliminary" communication, and had nothing to do with his subject. If the explanation was worth while incorporating in Dr. Mason's paper, it was worth while giving its author credit for it, just as it was worth while referring to the author of the Iguana article by name, if it was worth Dr. Mason's while to offer suggestions in a patronizing way, which were altogether unnecessary as a matter of instruction, and as which they seem intended to appear.

I consider this subject closed, as far as I am concerned, until such time as the main question here repeated, is properly answered.

E. C. SPITZKA.

NEW YORK, 130 E. 50th Street, July 19, 1881.

## NOTES.

The *Chemiker Zeitung* states that all the English and French professors at the University of Yeddo, Japan, have been dismissed, and their places filled with Germans. The Japanese Minister of Public Instruction is a German professor. The Chinese are about establishing a German University at Peking. These facts should be duly weighed by those who still doubt the superiority of German research over English cram and examinations!

ACCORDING to M. A. Gaudry the Permian reptiles of France diminish the vast interval which exists at present between the reptiles and the monotrematous mammals.

THE ferment which M. Béchamp supposed he had discovered in chalk has been traced, by MM. Chamberland and Roux, to an experimental error.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR NEW YORK CITY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 16, 1881.

Latitude 40° 45' 58" N.; Longitude 73° 57' 58" W.; height from ground, 53 feet; above the sea, 97 feet; by self-recording instruments.

BAROMETER.						THERMOMETERS.										
JULY.	MEAN FOR THE DAY.	MAXIMUM.		MINIMUM.		MEAN.		MAXIMUM.				MINIMUM.				MAXIMUM.
	Reduced to Freezing.	Reduced to Freezing.	Time.	Reduced to Freezing.	Time.	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Dry Bulb.	Time.	Wet Bulb.	Time.	Dry Bulb.	Time.	Wet Bulb.	Time.	In Sun.
Sunday, 10--	30.044	30.094	9 a. m.	29.082	12 p. m.	72.6	68.6	82	4 p. m.	74	4 p. m.	66	4 a. m.	65	4 a. m.	124.
Monday, 11--	29.943	29.996	12 p. m.	29.900	2 p. m.	72.0	69.3	80	11 a. m.	74	11 a. m.	65	12 p. m.	63	12 p. m.	129.
Tuesday, 12--	29.955	30.000	9 a. m.	29.900	12 p. m.	69.7	65.7	76	4 p. m.	70	5 p. m.	63	4 a. m.	62	5 a. m.	131.
Wednesday, 13--	29.805	29.900	0 a. m.	29.744	6 p. m.	79.6	73.6	90	4 p. m.	80	4 p. m.	68	3 a. m.	66	3 a. m.	135.
Thursday, 14--	29.889	29.976	12 p. m.	29.794	0 a. m.	80.0	71.3	86	3 p. m.	74	2 p. m.	75	6 a. m.	69	6 a. m.	143.
Friday, 15--	30.002	30.022	9 a. m.	29.970	0 a. m.	76.3	69.7	82	3 p. m.	72	1 p. m.	70	12 p. m.	67	6 p. m.	138.
Saturday, 16--	29.801	29.984	0 a. m.	29.618	12 p. m.	78.6	71.6	83	3 p. m.	73	3 p. m.	69	5 a. m.	67	5 a. m.	134.

Mean for the week..... 29.920 inches.  
 Maximum for the week at 9 a. m., July 10th..... 30.094  
 Minimum " at 12 p. m., 16th..... 29.618  
 Range..... .476

Mean for the week..... 75.5 degrees  
 Maximum for the week at 4 p. m., 13th 90.  
 Minimum " at 4 a. m., 12th 63.  
 Range " at 5 a. m., 12th, 62.  
 " 18.

WIND.				HYGROMETER.				CLOUDS.				RAIN AND SNOW.			
JULY.	DIRECTION.			VELOCITY IN MILES.		FORCE IN LBS. PER SQR. FEET.		FORCE OF VAPOR.		RELATIVE HUMIDITY.		CLEAR, OVERCAST.		DEPTH OF RAIN AND SNOW IN INCHES.	
	7 a. m.	2 p. m.	9 p. m.	Distance for the Day.	Max.	Time.	7 a. m.	2 p. m.	9 p. m.	7 a. m.	2 p. m.	9 p. m.	7 a. m.	2 p. m.	9 p. m.
Sunday, 10	s.	s.	s.	98	3/4	3.30 pm	.577	.704	.668	84	73	85	10	2 cir. cu.	3 cir.
Monday, 11	s. w.	s.	e. n. e.	106	1 1/4	11.30 am	.663	.799	.591	85	86	89	10	10	10
Tuesday, 12	e. r. e.	e.	s. s. e.	113	1 1/4	5.30 pm	.516	.604	.622	85	72	85	9 cu.	5 cu.	5 cu.
Wednesday, 13	s. s. w.	w. s. w.	w. s. w.	137	2 3/4	2.00 pm	.644	.836	.787	85	65	74	10	0	3 cu.
Thursday, 14	n. w.	n. n. w.	n. w.	122	1 1/2	9.30 am	.631	.691	.664	65	57	69	0	3 cir. cu.	8 cu.
Friday, 15	e. n. e.	e. s. e.	s. s. e.	130	3 1/4	10.00 am	.568	.677	.666	68	66	77	6 cir. cu.	9 cir. s.	0
Saturday, 16	s. w.	s. w.	w. s. w.	135	3 1/4	4.40 pm	.655	.677	.717	81	60	70	1 cir.	6 cir. cu.	0

Distance traveled during the week..... 841 miles.  
 Maximum force..... 11 3/4 lbs.

Total amount of water for the week..... 12 inch.  
 Duration of rain..... 4 hours 15 minutes.

DANIEL DRAPER, Ph. D.

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